Import of Luxury Items

3505. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have permitted the import of luxury items like 29-inch colour T.V. sets, air-conditioned buses, wood products, synthetic perfumes, synthetic flavours etc.;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what will be the impact of these imports on the respective indigenous industries?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Import of 29" : Colour T.V. sets, Air-conditioned buses, Wood products. Synthetic perfumery compounds and Synthetic flavouring essence has been permited against Special Import Licences to support and assist the Export House/ Trading Houses /Star Trading Houses/ Super Star Trading Houses. - Import of these items shall help in creating competitive environment among the indigenous industry.

Import of Agricultural Goods by Japan

3506. SHRI BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the total volume of agricultural goods imported by Japan and West Europe in 1991-93 and what proportions of those came from Africa. Latin America, Australia, New Zealand, India and rest of Asia?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): The details of import of agricultural goods into the'European Union (EU)were as below:

(Qty. Million'tonnes; Value: Million ECUs)

Country Group						
			Value			
Extra AEU	36929	88.50	37510	96.57	37077	91.24
India	492	1.36	488	1.30	580	1.51
Rest of Asia	4943	14.12	5594	18.03	5264	15.41
Africa*	4148	5.23	3833	5.01	3739	4.90
Latin America	9738	27.45	9410	,27.66	9208	26.30
New Zealand	928	0.60	931	0.62	977	0.59
Australia	311	0.40	400	0.78	456	0.99
	. 57489	137.66	58166	149.97	57301	140.94

(SOURCE: Embassy of India at Brussels)